What is VPP?

The Voluntary Protection Program is designed to encourage cooperative efforts between employees, management and OSHA for the purpose of improving workplace safety and health. The VPP concept recognizes that workplace safety and health can be enforced in a compliance atmosphere and can be enhanced in a cooperative atmosphere.

What are the benefits of joining the VPP?

Sites that have participated in the VPP state the following benefits of becoming certified:

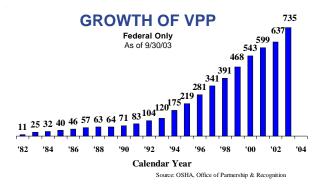
- Improved employee motivation for workplace safety, leading to improved quality and productivity
- · Reduced worker's compensation costs
- · Community recognition
- Improvement of existing safety and health programs through the internal and external reviews required under VPP

Participant sites generally experience from 60 to 80 percent fewer lost workday injuries than an 'average' worksite of the same size in the same industry.

How Does VPP Work?

Your company will benefit from free networking and mentoring programs that will help you prepare for your on-site inspection. Your company will capitalize on a network of experienced safety and health professionals and proven best practice procedures.

Management and employees agree to participate in the process. Utilizing the resources available through the VPPPA, employees and management work together to implement, maintain, document and improve their safety process. Then OSHA VPP makes a voluntary, non-enforcement, site visit to confirm the worksite qualifies for VPP recognition. The site is then recognized as a Star



participant or a Merit participant. Follow-up visits from OSHA (usually at three year intervals) ensure continued high safety standards and safe practices.

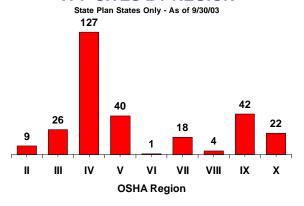
What is Region IV?

VPPPA Region IV is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and is a branch of the National Voluntary Protection Program Participants Association. Our mission is to provide support in the form of information and networking services to people in the Southeast who are committed to excellence in workplace health and safety.

Region IV is evenly split between State OSHA plans and Federal OSHA plans. The State Plan states are: Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina. The Federal Plan States are: Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi.

Region IV VPP sites are leaders in health and

VPP SITES BY REGION



safety through the cooperative efforts of labor, management and OSHA. As of November 2003 there were 275 worksites in the Southeast that are VPP certified, the most of any region in the Nation.

Region IV VPPPA assists in the safety and health process by providing learning, and networking opportunities to Region IV participants. Annual conventions provide an opportunity to improve skills through a series of educational workshops that cover many issues relevant to safe worksites. These workshops are instructed by Region IV members and professionals in these fields.

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OSHA VPP Website: www.osha.gov/dcsp/vpp/index.html





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